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SOURCE: MOPRS' BANNERS ABROAD,
REPORT TO THE THIRD MOPR
CONGRESS OF THE SOVIET
UNION, BY H. STASSOVA.
(Congress held Feb. 15-19,
1931)

IX. MOPR AND WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

It was necessary to carry out a strict dividing line between our work and the work of the Workers International Relief in the sphere of the broad mass organisations.

The comrades from the Workers International Relief and of our organisation are at times confused on the question as to what is the difference between this and the other.

The difference is this. That we are assisting the political prisoners, and the Workers International Relief assists at the time of the economic strikes, at the time of the economic struggle.

Our comrades in Germany have almost made a mistake.

When a large strike movement began in the Ruhr and in Mansfeld, they began to carry out the work as well as the Workers International Relief. We gave them instructions that this was incorrect, that our MOPR organisation must participate in the strike committees which are created at the time of the strikes, because we know that as the result of these strikes there will be victims, but it is necessary to strictly de-limit and to know that we will assist the victims and their families and not the strikers in general.

This line we have carried out, are carrying out, and will carry out.

In the resolution of the Sixth Congress of the Comintern it was pointed out to us that it is necessary to

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de-limit the spheres of activity, and also in relation to the Workers International Relief. It is necessary to say that sometimes proposals are made to unite MOPR and Workers International Relief.

This cannot be permitted.

How is it possible to unite such two ununified magnitudes as the aid in the economic struggle and assistance to political prisoners? If we shall unite this work in one organisation then we shall make a complete mess. Let us take the Workers International Relief.

It rendered aid at the time of the earthquake in Japan when the workers remained without a shelter. Can we as MOPR members in such cases give assistance? Under no circumstances.

Had the Workers International Relief the duty to render this assistance?

Of course it had. When in 1921 we had famine, the Workers International Relief was first to give aid to our children.

Should MOPR have done this?

No!

Undoubtedly the spheres of activity are entirely different and it is not only unnecessary to unite them, but this should not be done.